



Blue Ridge High School

2151 Fews Chapel Rd
Greer, SC 29651

Grades	9-12 High School	
Enrollment	1,177 Students	
Principal	Reena Watson	864-355-1800
Superintendent	Mr. Burke Royster	864-355-3100
Board Chair	Mr. Chuck Saylor	803-360-3527

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2013	Excellent	Excellent*
2012	Excellent	Good
2011	Excellent	Excellent
2010	Average	Below Average
2009	Average	Below Average

* The School's 2013 Growth Rating was raised one level because of substantial improvement in the achievement of students belonging to historically underachieving groups of students. The Growth Rating may or may not have been affected by the performance of these groups in prior years.

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF HIGH SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
21	1	0	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 12/14/2013.

High School Assessment Program (HSAP) Exam Passage Rate: Second Year Students

	Our High School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2011	2012	2013	2011	2012	2013
Passed 2 subtests (%)	85.9%	83.7%	87.6%	84.6%	85.2%	85.5%
Passed 1 subtest (%)	8.1%	9.9%	11.0%	9.7%	9.3%	9.5%
Passed no subtests (%)	5.9%	6.4%	1.4%	6.3%	5.5%	4.9%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013

	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Percent	95.3%	95.0%

Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate

	Our High School		High Schools with Students Like Ours	
	2012*	2013	2012	2013
Number of Students in Four-Year Cohort	292	278	387	354
Number of Graduates in Cohort	219	230	308	294
Rate	75.0%	82.7%	79.6%	82.9%

*Used to calculate current ESEA/Federal Accountability Grade.

Five-Year Graduation Rate

	Our High School		High Schools with Students Like Ours	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
Number of Students in Cohort	310	288	392	357
Number of Graduates in Cohort	258	229	314	299
Rate	83.2%	79.5%	80.6%	84.3%

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours*
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	90.4%	78.7%
English 1	80.2%	76.9%
Biology 1/Applied Biology 2	84.7%	84.5%
US History and the Constitution	74.1%	68.4%
All Tests	82.2%	78.1%

* High Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n=1,177)				
Retention rate	1.7%	Down from 1.9%	2.3%	2.9%
Attendance rate	95.0%	Up from 94.7%	95.3%	95.1%
Served by gifted and talented program	30.2%	N/A	28.2%	17.5%
With disabilities	11.3%	N/A	10.0%	11.9%
Older than usual for grade	5.2%	N/A	6.3%	7.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	2.3%	Up from 1.0%	0.8%	1.1%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	50.5%	Up from 20.8%	26.9%	15.1%
Successful on AP/IB exams	25.0%	Down from 28.9%	51.7%	51.5%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	12.5%	Down from 62.9%	31.3%	30.6%
Annual dropout rate	2.6%	Down from 3.5%	2.2%	2.3%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	12.5%	Up from 5.7%	9.8%	7.2%
Enrollment in career/technology courses	578	Down from 614	783	418
Students participating in work-based experiences	2.1%	No Change	21.4%	14.6%
Career/technology students attaining technical skills	91.3%	Up from 82.6%	84.2%	84.8%
Career/technology completers placed	100.0%	No Change	99.1%	98.3%
Teachers (n=61)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	57.4%	Down from 58.3%	66.7%	63.4%
Continuing contract teachers	77.0%	Down from 80.0%	79.1%	78.8%
Teachers returning from previous year	85.4%	Down from 85.5%	87.7%	86.2%
Teacher attendance rate	96.1%	Down from 96.9%	95.4%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$48,699	Down 0.6%	\$48,887	\$48,699
Professional development days/teacher	7.2 days	Up from 7.1 days	8.6 days	9.9 days
School				
Principal's years at school	7.0	Up from 6.0	6.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	30.8 to 1	Down from 32.5 to 1	29.0 to 1	26.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.6%	Down from 91.0%	90.1%	89.0%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,202	Up 8.2%	\$6,988	\$7,919
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	57.0%	Down from 59.3%	59.0%	57.0%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	59.0%	Down from 59.8%	61.0%	60.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	94.2%	Down from 95.0%	97.4%	97.7%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Modern language program assessment	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.0
Classical language program assessment	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.0

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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Performance By Student Groups

	HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013		End of Course Tests Passage Rate		On-time Graduation Rate, 2013	
	n	%	t	%	n	%
All Students	233	95.3%	1059	82.2%	278	82.7%
Gender						
Male	120	92.5%	543	80.1%	145	77.9%
Female	113	98.2%	516	84.3%	133	88.0%
Racial/Ethnic Group						
White	213	95.8%	961	82.7%	253	84.2%
African American	16	87.5%	47	66.0%	19	73.7%
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	42	85.7%	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disability Status						
Disabled	26	76.9%	99	51.5%	25	48.0%
Migrant Status						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency						
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	26	92.3%	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Status						
Subsidized meals	84	89.3%	376	76.9%	90	73.3%

NOTE: n=number of students on which percentage is calculated; t=number of tests taken.

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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Blue Ridge High School serves a tightly knit community in the Northern part of Greenville County. Parents and businesses are highly supportive of the school's varied academic, athletic, fine arts, and extra-curricular offerings. The students, faculty, staff, parents, and community are proud of achieving Palmetto Gold again, as a result of significant increase in student achievement. Through more teacher collaboration, a focus on data analysis, involvement of community stakeholders, working with other high achieving schools, and creating opportunities for remediation and mastery, Blue Ridge High continues to increase student achievement.

Our Advanced Placement program has grown to include sixteen courses. Blue Ridge High is the only school in the district to offer four levels of four different foreign languages, and our school has extensive agricultural and technology courses. The graduating class was awarded over \$5 million in scholarship money and 73% of the graduates will attend college or enlist in the military this fall.

The Academic Team, FFA, FBLA, and JCL were successful in competitions at various levels this year. The National Thespian Society was newly formed at Blue Ridge. AFJROTC students participated in community service, charity events, and Cadet Leadership School. The band and chorus continued their award winning traditions at competitions on the local, regional, and state level. Student Council organized many student events and hosted an exceedingly successful Senior Day. SIC organized Ridge Fest, which highlights the school's organizations and clubs to the community. Several teachers received grants to enhance the school and facilitate learning in the classroom.

In the athletic realm, Blue Ridge High is proud of the students and coaches for the high levels of success in various programs. Several athletes from football, swim, girls' golf, boys' tennis, wrestling, baseball, and softball received state recognition for their excellence on and off the field. The boys' cross country team placed in the state competition. The football, cheerleading, volleyball, girls' golf, girls' basketball, baseball, softball, and boys' tennis teams qualified for state playoffs. Football, cheerleading, and boys' tennis won the region and several athletes received local recognition.

Blue Ridge High School will continue to make strides for student improvement through academics, athletics, and the arts. The students are the focal point of every decision. Our goal is that each student in the school will leave with a high school diploma and is prepared to successfully meet the challenges of the world.

Reena Watson, Principal
Chandra Cisson, SIC Chair

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	69	226	12
Percent satisfied with learning environment	91.3%	88.5%	91.6%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	98.6%	86.7%	100%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	86.9%	92%	81.8%

* Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included. For schools without grade eleven, only the highest grade was included.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2013, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/esea/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	81.8
Overall Grade Conversion	B

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the state's expectations

Accountability Indicator for Title I Schools

Blue Ridge High School school has been designated as a:

- ☐ Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
- ☐ Title I Reward School for Progress – one of the schools with substantial progress in student subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Focus School – one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Priority School – one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
- ☐ Title I School – does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
- ☒ Non-Title I School – therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality Data

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.8%	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.7%	4.9%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.6%	0.0%	No

Abbreviations for Missing Data

Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Graduation Rate
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Grades 9-12

All Students	240.0	232.4	84.1	71.6	100.0	100.0	75.0
Male	235.7	232.1	85.4	72.7	100.0	100.0	71.8
Female	244.0	232.7	82.8	70.5	100.0	100.0	78.7
White	240.6	232.7	84.9	72.0	100.0	100.0	76.2
African American	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	220.0	205.9	N/A	N/A	100.0	100.0	37.0
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	233.7	224.0	80.3	69.6	100.0	100.0	70.3
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	226	223	77	73	95.0	95	74.1

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Two-Year HSAP Trend Data								
	School Year	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	School % Proficient or Advanced*
English/Language Arts								
All Students	2012	283	100.0	7.1	26.5	37.5	29.0	66.4
	2013	283	100.0	1.8	27.9	35.0	35.3	70.3
Mathematics								
All Students	2012	283	100.0	15.5	26.1	29.3	29.0	58.3
	2013	283	100.0	12.0	31.1	34.3	22.6	56.9

Abbreviations for Missing Data